



**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

October 13, 2005

**For immediate release**

- 1. Energy, wetlands and wastewater fees on EPC agenda**
- 2. Nutrient management important to protect water quality, control costs**
- 3. Spills contained because of quick reporting, safety issues important during harvest**
- 4. Water quality meetings scheduled for Little Wall Lake and Williamson Pond**
- 5. Iowa awarded more than \$5.7 million in Farm Bill energy grants**

**ENERGY, WETLANDS AND WASTEWATER FEES ON EPC AGENDA**

**NOTE TO EDITORS: See story on Energy Grant Awards**

DES MOINES – Commissioners will learn more about \$5.7 million awarded to Iowa farms, rural businesses and communities for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects at the Oct. 17 meeting of the Environmental Protection Commission. The grants were awarded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development. The DNR's energy office will also present information about awards to the state from the U.S. Department of Energy.

The meeting will be held at 10 a.m., at the Des Moines Water Works, 2201 George Flagg Parkway, in Des Moines. The meeting is open to the public and public participation is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. At 2 p.m., a hearing is scheduled with Osceola County concerning a proposed animal feeding operation. The meeting will be preceded by a tour of the water works facility at 8:30 a.m.

In other action, the DNR is asking the commission to place wetlands in 140 publicly-owned wildlife areas on a protected water resource list. With some exceptions, new and expanding animal confinements would be required to locate away from these unique and high quality water resources.

These designated wetlands must be owned and managed by the DNR or the U.S. Department of the Interior. Land located within a drainage district or levee district cannot be included.

In other action, commissioners will be asked to approve setting fees for wastewater construction and operating permits, also called national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permits. These fees would allow the state to improve services and technical assistance to permit holders. Current fees for NPDES storm water permits would not be affected by this proposed rule change.

The complete agenda is as follows:

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
- Director's Remarks
- Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Project Contract
- Contract Amendment for Water Supply Database Programming and Support
- Contract – One Stop Project Manager
- Final Rule - Chapter 60 - Scope of Title-Definitions-Forms-Rules of Practice, Chapter 62 - Effluent and Pretreatment Standards, Chapter 63 - Monitoring, Analytical and Reporting Requirements
- Final Rule - Amendments to Chapter 136, Financial Responsibility Requirements for Underground Storage Tanks
- Final Rule - Chapter 23 – NESHAP Update
- Notice of Intended Action - Chapters 20 and 22 (Air Construction Permitting Exemptions)
- Notice of Intended Action - Amend Iowa Administrative Code 567-Chapter 101; “Solid Waste Comprehensive Planning Requirements”
- Notice of Intended Action – Rescind IAC 567—Chapter 211 “Grants for Regional Collection Centers of Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators and Household Hazardous Wastes.” Adopt both IAC 567—Chapter 211 “Financial Assistance for the Collection of Household Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste From Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators” and IAC 567—Chapter 123 “Regional Collection Centers and Mobile Unit Collection and Consolidation Center” in lieu thereof.
- Notice of Intended Action – Amendments to Chapter 64 by adding languages to start collecting a fee for wastewater permits
- Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 65 – Technical Corrections and Additions to Table 1: Major Water Sources – Rivers and Streams
- Notice of Intended Action - Amendments to Chapter 135, Technical Standards and Corrective Action Requirements for Owners and Operators of Underground Storage Tanks and Chapter 134, Certification of Groundwater Professionals
- Proposed Case Decisions - Greg Vanden Bosch and G&T Eggs, James Schmitz, HPD Pork and Harold Dekkers, John Hansen, and Teske Pork, LLC
- Referrals to the Attorney General
  - Dean Williams (Stuart) – Underground Storage Tank
- Proposed Rule – Chapter 65 - Establish a set of Designated Wetlands on lands owned and managed by the federal government or the Department of Natural Resources
- Proposed Rule – Chapters 40, 44, 90, 91, 92, 93 – Revisions to State Revolving Fund Rules

- Presentation – 2005 Farm Bill Section 9006 Awards
- Presentation – State Energy Program Awards
- Monthly Reports
- General Discussion
- Items for next month's meeting

More information about the agenda items can be found on the DNR Web site under Commissions and Boards at [www.iowadnr.com](http://www.iowadnr.com).

The members of the commission are Darrell Hanson, chair, Manchester; Jerry Peckumn, vice chair, Jefferson; Lisa Davis-Cook, secretary, West Des Moines; Francis Thicke, Fairfield; Donna Buell, Spirit Lake; Mary Gail Scott, Cedar Rapids; David Petty, Eldora; Suzanne Morrow, Storm Lake; and Henry Marquard, Muscatine. The director of the DNR is Jeff Vonk.

**For more information, contact Karen Grimes at (515) 281-5135.**

# # #

## **NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT IMPORTANT TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY, CONTROL COSTS**

DES MOINES — Carefully managing fertilizer application for next year's crop can control costs and also help protect water quality in Iowa.

“Management is always important so that excess nutrients don't wash into our rivers and streams,” said Lyle Asell, the DNR's special assistant for agriculture. “But it's especially important this year in light of the cost, and perhaps the availability, of commercial anhydrous ammonia fertilizer.”

“Depending on the weather, there is potential for nitrogen loss from leaching or volatilization between when the fertilizer is applied and when the crop can use it,” Asell said. “Waiting until the crop needs nitrogen is ideal, but waiting until spring or until soils are cool will reduce the risk of nitrogen loss.”

Mona Bond, C.E.O. of the Agribusiness Association of Iowa, advises producers to make a conscious decision about fall nitrogen application. “If you apply anhydrous ammonia in the fall, wait until the ground temperature is 50 degrees and falling,” she said. “Usually that occurs sometime between late October and late November.”

Asell adds that producers should take credit for nitrogen carried over from legumes and other sources, such as animal manure, when planning fertilizer application.

Soil temperatures and additional information can be found on several Iowa State University Web sites. Temperature estimates for each Iowa county can be found at <http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/NPKnowledge/>. Another helpful ISU site is available by clicking on “Avg 4in Soil Temps,” at <http://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/agclimate/>.

Producers should also follow Iowa State recommendations to watch weather trends and avoid fall application before a warming trend.

**For more information, contact Bill Ehm, the DNR nonpoint source watershed coordinator, at (515) 281-4701; or Mona Bond, Agribusiness Association C.E.O., at (515) 262-8323.**

# # #

## **SPILLS CONTAINED BECAUSE OF QUICK REPORTING, SAFETY ISSUES IMPORTANT DURING HARVEST**

DES MOINES — Quick responses helped minimize the impacts of a diesel fuel spill Tuesday near Storm Lake and a manure spill Wednesday near Stratford.

“With two accidents in the last two days, we want to remind people to slow down and drive cautiously, for their own safety and for the safety of Iowa’s environment,” said Jeff Vansteenburgh, head of the DNR’s Mason City field office.

In the first accident, a farmer’s combine overturned, landing in Boyer Creek. Shortly after the incident, the farmer’s family contacted the DNR field office in Spencer.

Within an hour of the accident, Julie Sievers, a DNR environmental specialist, worked with the Buena Vista County sanitarian to place booms in the creek to contain and absorb the spilled fuel and oil. Sievers also stayed on scene in case more fuel spilled as three tow trucks pulled the combine from the creek.

“This shows why it’s so important to contact the DNR immediately in case of a spill,” Sievers said. “Had they waited until the combine was pulled out of the stream, the contamination could have reached the Boyer River. Everyone worked very hard to minimize the environmental impact. It could have been much, much worse.”

Less than three gallons of fuel, hydraulic oil and motor oil were spilled in the incident, and the contaminated water has been contained by the booms within a 200-yard stretch of the creek. The booms will absorb the fuel and oil from the water.

Boyer Creek is a tributary of Boyer River, which drains into the Missouri River. The spill took place along a stretch of Boyer Creek on the Sac-Buena Vista County line, south of Storm Lake.

Quick reporting also helped efforts after a manure spill southeast of Stratford Wednesday evening.

A tanker, owned by waste hauler Alan Neese, was carrying approximately 7,000 gallons of liquid manure when it overturned around 6 p.m. at the intersection of R-27 and 370th St. About half of that amount spilled into a road ditch, where some of it entered a tile intake that discharges to Squaw Creek.

Most of the manure has been cleaned out of the road ditch and the tile line has been flushed. An estimated 1,000 gallons may have reached a half-mile stretch of the creek. The creek is being dammed Thursday afternoon, and the contaminated water will be pumped out and land-applied.

**For more information on Boyer Creek, contact Julie Sievers at (712) 732-8350. For more information on Squaw Creek, contact Jeff Vansteenburgh or Dale Adams at (641) 424-4073.**

# # #

## **WATER QUALITY MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR LITTLE WALL LAKE AND WILLIAMSON POND**

DES MOINES — The DNR is asking Iowans for their comments on water quality improvement plans to improve Little Wall Lake in Hamilton County and Williamson Pond in Lucas County.

The draft water quality improvement plan, or TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load), has been developed for each of these lakes. TMDLs are calculations used to determine how much of a pollutant a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards.

The water quality improvement plan will also investigate how water quality can be improved through conservation efforts in the watershed. After receiving public comments, the plan will be forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for final approval.

Following are the details of the public comment meetings:

### **Jewell (Little Wall Lake):**

October 26, 3:00 p.m.

Little Wall Lake shelter house, 2 miles south of Jewell on Hwy 69

### **Chariton (Williamson Pond):**

October 27, 1:00 p.m.

Pin Oak Educational Center, approximately 1 mile south of Chariton on Hwy 14

The water quality problems are related to excessive algal growth and turbidity for Little Wall Lake, and to turbidity and nutrients for Williamson Pond. These problems are threatening the lakes' ability to support their designated uses for maintaining aquatic life and for primary contact recreation, such as swimming.

In Little Wall Lake, algae and turbidity impairments are symptoms of excessive phosphorus and suspended solids. The turbidity, or cloudy water, is caused by a combination of algae and suspended sediment. Excessive phosphorus attaches to the particles and causes aesthetically objectionable algal blooms through the summer and fall, leading to the predominance of algae, limited water clarity and floating algal scum.

Williamson Pond is similar to Little Wall Lake in that it is impaired for turbidity and nutrients, and like Little Wall Lake, has excessive algae. However, Williamson Pond's reduced water clarity is caused primarily by moderately high levels of suspended mineral particles.

The draft water quality improvement plan can be obtained and comments can be made through Nov.23 using the following sources:

- Internet: [www.iowadnr.com/water/tmdlwqa/tmdl/publicnotice.html](http://www.iowadnr.com/water/tmdlwqa/tmdl/publicnotice.html)
- E-mail: [chris.vangorp@dnr.state.ia.us](mailto:chris.vangorp@dnr.state.ia.us)
- Telephone: Chris Van Gorp at (515) 281-4791
- Mail: Chris Van Gorp, Iowa DNR, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319.

**For more information, contact Chris Van Gorp at (515) 281-4791.**

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## **IOWA AWARDED MORE THAN \$5.7 MILLION IN FARM BILL ENERGY GRANTS**

DES MOINES – The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced the selection of 37 applicants from Iowa to receive more than \$5.7 million in USDA Rural Development grant assistance for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

“Iowa’s projects will assist in reducing the state’s reliance on petroleum-based energy sources,” said Brian Tormey, chief of the DNR’s Energy and Waste Management Bureau. “Nationally, Iowa received 25 percent of the total grant awards. The state was also awarded nearly 30 percent of the total funds available.”

The DNR provided outreach and technical assistance to Iowa’s grant applicants. Other partnering organizations included: Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, Iowa Agriculture Innovation Center, Iowa Rural Development Council, USDA Rural Development, Iowa Energy Center, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Agricultural Marketing Resource Center.

The state’s projects ranged from biomass to small and large wind farms to energy efficiency projects. A complete list of Iowa’s awardees is included below:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>AWARD</b>
Sunset View Wind Farm, LLC	Albert City	Wind	\$206,000
Palo Alto Wind Farm, LLC	Albert City	Wind	\$206,000
Lost Island Lake Wind Farm, LLC	Albert City	Wind	\$216,000
Sunrise View Wind Farm, LLC	Albert City	Wind	\$240,000
Erpelding Farms	Algona	Grain Drying	\$24,000
Mid Iowa Cooperative	Beaman	Grain Drying	\$143,987
Miller Wind Farm, LLC	Britt	Wind	\$300,000
Clinton County Bio Energy, LLC	Clinton	Biodiesel	\$500,000
Dohrmann Enterprises	DeWitt	Insulation	\$15,420

Quad D Farms, Inc.	Garner	Grain Drying	\$8,000
Clear View Acres Wind Farm, LLC		Wind	\$245,000
Elk Lake Wind Farm, LLC	Havelock	Wind	\$240,000
Eagle View Acres Wind Farm, LLC		Wind	\$224,000
Allen Kadolph	Hubbard	Grain Drying	\$20,180
Wind Family Turbine, LLC	Jefferson	Wind	\$253,000
Sutton Wind Energy, LLC	Jefferson	Wind	\$239,000
Poverty Ridge Wind, LLC	Jefferson	Wind	\$240,000
Jet Wind, LLC	Jefferson	Wind	\$230,000
Hardin Wind Energy, LLC	Jefferson	Wind	\$253,000
Greene Wind Energy, LLC	Jefferson	Wind	\$240,000
Zontos Wind, LLC	Jefferson	Wind	\$234,000
William V. Greiman	Klemme	Grain Drying	\$11,168
Virgin Lake Acres Wind Farm, LLC	Laurens	Wind	\$241,000
Silver Lakes Acres Wind Farm, LLC	Laurens	Wind	\$226,000
Double J Farms	Milford	Grain Drying	\$19,829
Curtis Garrett	Mt. Pleasant	Wind	\$10,500
Lucky Brothers Partnership		Wood Burner	\$17,538
Berg Farms	Osage	Grain Drying	\$20,083
Two Rivers Cooperative	Pella	Grain Drying	\$50,000
Larry W. and Wayne K. Schubert	Rockford	Grain Drying	\$6,930
Sean W. Van Berkum	Rock Rapids	Insulation/ Windows	\$8,518
Gregory J. Jepsen	Sabula	Grain Drying	\$7,861
Highland Township Wind Farm, LLC	Varina	Wind	\$219,000
Lake View Farms, Inc.	Waterloo	Grain Drying	\$26,896
Wind Vision, LLC	Waukon	Wind	\$300,000
Andrew McCall		Wind	\$21,250

Grant applications are now available for 2006 by visiting:  
[www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia/rbcs\\_RE-EE\\_Section\\_9006.html](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia/rbcs_RE-EE_Section_9006.html).

**For more information, contact Jim Bodensteiner with the DNR at (515) 281-8416 or  
Jim.Bodensteiner@dnr.state.ia.us.**